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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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42425	7590	01/11/2007	EXAMINER	
HICKMAN PALERMO TRUONG & BECKER/ORACLE 2055 GATEWAY PLACE SUITE 550 SAN JOSE, CA 95110-1089			KIM, PAUL	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2161	
SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE		DELIVERY MODE	
3 MONTHS	01/11/2007		PAPER	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/767,501	YU ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Paul Kim	2161

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 October 2006.
 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-10 and 15-17 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1-10 and 15-17 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date 2/15/06.

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application
 6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. This Office action is responsive to the following communication: Response to Restriction Requirement filed on 17 October 2006.
2. Claims 1-10 and 15-17 are pending and present for examination. Claim 1 is independent.

Election/Restrictions

3. Applicant's election without traverse of Claims 1-10 and 15-18 in the reply filed on 17 October 2006 is acknowledged.

Information Disclosure Statement

4. The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on 15 February 2006 is in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97. Accordingly, the information disclosure statement is being considered by the examiner.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

5. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

6. **Claim 1** is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. While claim 1 recites the limitation of "determining that collection of data elements to be returned by the query corresponds to a first data structure not defined with a type dictionary of the database system," the Office is unable to

make a determination as to the portion of the specification which would reasonable convey to one or ordinary skill in the art said limitation.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

7. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

8. **Claims 1-5 and 8-10** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Burroughs et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,076,090, hereinafter referred to as BURROUGHS), filed on 26 November 1997, and issued on 13 June 2000.

9. **As per independent claim 1**, BURROUGHS teaches:

A method of operation within a database system, the method comprising:

receiving a request to execute a query {See BURROUGHS, C3:L37-44, wherein this reads over “[t]he schema map object may be generated in response to the completion of a transaction by the application program involving the object or in response to other suitable occurrences. The schema map object is preferably generated in response to the first transaction in which an object of a certain class is to be persisted and remains in memory for persisting, querying, restoring or deleting objects of that class”};

determining that a collection of data elements to be returned by the query corresponds to a first data structure not defined within a type dictionary of the database system {See BURROUGHS, C3:L53-65, wherein this reads over “a table is created in the database if a table does not yet exist for the class”};

obtaining attribute values that describe respective data fields within the first data structure {See BURROUGHS, C3:L53-65, wherein this reads over “the fields are preferably determined using Java Reflections methods, which allow the class object to be examined to determine, among other information, the names, data types and classes of the fields”}; and

recording, within the type dictionary, a first data type definition that specifies the data fields described by the attribute values {See BURROUGHS, C3:L53-65, wherein this reads over “[a] row in the table is defined that corresponds to the object to be persisted. One or more columns are defined that correspond to the fields”}.

10. **As per dependent claim 2, BURROUGHS teaches:**

The method of claim 1 further comprising recording, within the type dictionary, a second data type definition that defines an array of the first data type {See BURROUGHS, C7:L27-59, wherein this reads over "[t]his type of mapping of entities and their dependents (if any) is suitable for entities and dependents having fields declared to be of primitive data types, such as . . . array"}.

11. **As per dependent claim 3, BURROUGHS teaches:**

The method of claim 1 wherein obtaining attribute values that describe respective data fields within the first data structure comprises querying a data source to obtain the attribute values {See BURROUGHS, C6:L50-53, wherein this reads over "[t]he mapping depends upon the nature of the contents of the fields of the object. With certain exceptions, each field is mapped to one column"}.

12. **As per dependent claim 4, BURROUGHS teaches:**

The method of claim 3 wherein querying the data source to obtain the attribute values comprises communicating with a remote processing system via a network of one or more computer systems {See BURROUGHS, Figure 5A}.

13. **As per dependent claim 5, BURROUGHS teaches:**

The method of claim 1 wherein the first data structure includes rows and columns of data values, and wherein obtaining attribute values that describe respective data fields within the first data structure comprises obtaining a list of column names and column types {See BURROUGHS, C3:L53-65, wherein this reads over "a table is created in the database if a table does not yet exist for the class. A row in the table is defined that corresponds to the object to be persisted. One or more columns are defined that correspond to the fields"}.

14. **As per dependent claim 8, BURROUGHS teaches:**

The method of claim 1 wherein recording a first data type definition comprises:

generating a data type name {See BURROUGHS, C3:L53-65, wherein this reads over "a table is created in the database if a table does not yet exist for the class. A row in the table is defined that corresponds to the object to be persisted. One or more columns are defined that correspond to the fields"};

associating the data type name with names of the data fields {See BURROUGHS, C3:L53-65, wherein this reads over "a table is created in the database if a table does not yet exist for the class. A row in the table is defined that corresponds to the object to be persisted. One or more columns are defined that correspond to the fields"}; and

recording the data type name and the names of the data fields in the type dictionary {See BURROUGHS, C4:L3-5, wherein this reads over "the values read from the fields are stored in the columns of that row of the table in accordance with the correspondence between the columns and the fields"}.

15. **As per dependent claim 9, BURROUGHS teaches:**

The method of claim 8 wherein generating the data type name comprises incrementing an identifier value associated with a previously generated name, the incremented identifier value constituting, at least in part, the data type name {See BURROUGHS, C7:L15-24, wherein this reads over "a universally unique identifier (UUID)" and "such a field may be a UUID, alternatively, it may be data pertinent to the object, such as a person's name, employee number or Social Security number"}.

16. **As per dependent claim 10, BURROUGHS teaches:**

The method of claim 8 wherein the names of the data fields are included in the attribute values and wherein associating the data type name with the names of the data fields comprises specifying the names of the data fields as component data elements of the first data type definition {See C7:L27-59}.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

17. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

18. **Claims 6-7 and 15-17** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over BURROUGHS, in view of Official Notice.

19. **As per dependent claims 6 and 7, the Office takes Official Notice that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was claimed that a binary large object (i.e. "blob") be returned, wherein a blob is a collection of binary data stored as a single entity in a database management system. Therefore, where it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was claimed that an attribute value describe a blob, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art that said attribute value(s) be returned accordingly.**

20. **As per dependent claim 15, the Office takes Official Notice that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was claimed that when a function such as a SQL statement is executed, a collection of aggregate data values is returned.**

Art Unit: 2161

21. **As per dependent claim 16**, the Office takes Official Notice that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was claimed that queries commonly indicate the type of value (e.g. an integer, text, or string) to be returned by a query.

22. **As per dependent claim 17**, BURROUGHS, in combination with Official Notice, discloses:

The method of claim 16 wherein the predetermined return type corresponds to an array of aggregate values {See BURROUGHS, C7:L27-59, wherein this reads over "[t]his type of mapping of entities and their dependents (if any) is suitable for entities and dependents having fields declared to be of primitive data types, such as . . . array"} and indicates that each of the aggregate values includes component values in accordance with the first data structure {See BURROUGHS, C3:L53-65, wherein this reads over "a table is created in the database if a table does not yet exist for the class"}.

Conclusion

23. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Paul Kim whose telephone number is (571) 272-2737. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 9am - 5pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jeffrey Gaffin can be reached on (571) 272-4146. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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